

NEW SOUTH WALES.

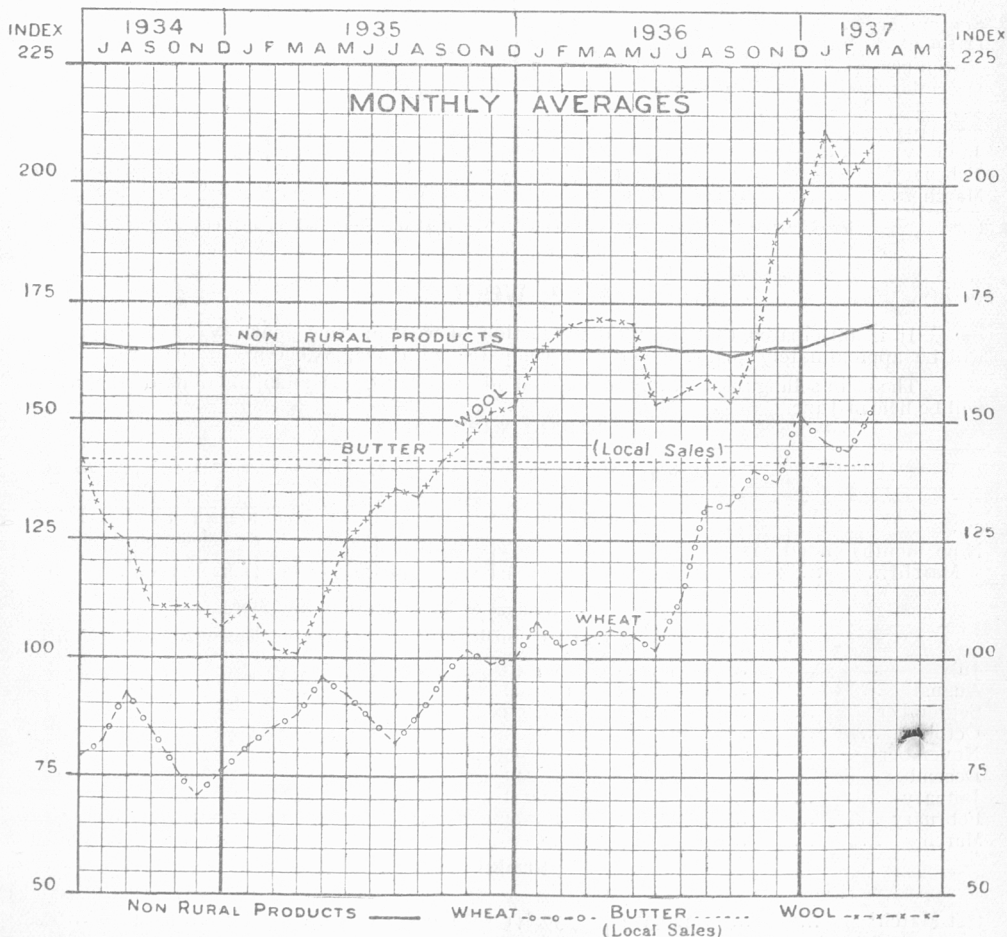
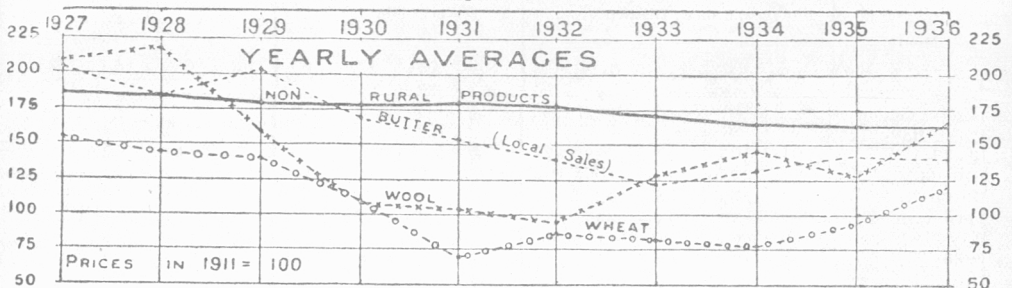
MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS.

No. 72. APRIL 27, 1937.

Issued by T. Waites, O.B.E., Government Statistician.

INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911 = 100.



SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1936.													
January ...	91	167	197	325	173	92	152	217	184	76	114	88	88
February ...	93	205	195	118	161	117	262	203	207	57	110	127	79
March ...	122	187	118	183	146	130	173	113	131	119	125	180	128
April ...	41	36	93	22	55	54	36	84	67	50	67	79	58
May ...	100	64	34	111	69	84	62	34	48	120	57	43	94
June ...	41	65	142	70	84	39	72	136	107	41	46	87	48
July ...	167	186	220	213	197	179	188	214	203	42	35	67	43
August ...	92	97	98	116	98	118	101	90	96	36	32	92	42
September ...	104	52	41	32	61	110	52	41	53	93	57	43	77
October ...	27	43	55	74	46	18	50	61	52	61	54	30	55
November ...	13	7	23	10	14	10	7	19	15	22	16	44	23
December ...	125	193	234	310	200	131	189	243	215	167	193	209	179
1937.													
January ...	88	89	180	123	122	98	97	190	154	76	146	112	99
February ...	86	94	15	136	70	82	82	9	37	183	69	66	139
March ...	196	101	100	68	124	159	110	84	105	208	176	200	199

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

2. WOOL.

It is anticipated that the total production of wool in New South Wales for 1936-1937 will be approximately 494,000,000 lb., as compared with 472,585,000 lb. in 1935-36.

The main selling season in Sydney closed on 22nd April. The final auctions of the season will be held in June.

SYDNEY WOOL SALES.

Period.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
	Number of Bales Sold.			Sales.	Amount Realised for Wool Sold.	
Nine months ended 31st					£	£
March* ...	948,399	1,091,195	1,052,856	11,778,756	19,224,531	21,977,192
	Number of Bales Received into Store.					
	During Month.			Total for Season to end of Month.		
July ...	50,649	50,740	38,283	50,649	50,740	38,283
August ...	168,244	185,192	162,355	218,893	235,932	200,638
September ...	241,781	257,809	320,551	460,674	493,741	521,189
October ...	304,447	288,793	311,033	765,121	782,534	832,222
November ...	195,596	193,805	179,822	960,717	976,339	1,012,044
December ...	73,448	57,042	47,205	1,034,165	1,033,381	1,059,249
January ...	24,293	22,032	26,276	1,058,458	1,055,413	1,085,525
February ...	23,385	26,274	27,128	1,081,843	1,081,687	1,112,653
March ...	27,727	29,738	33,357	1,109,570	1,111,425	1,146,010
	Number of Bales in Store Unsold.					
31st March*	220,372	30,841	119,573	...	...	...

* Including carry-over from previous season.

The course of wool prices is shown in Table 25.

3. WHEAT.

The area sown with wheat for 1936-37, as shown by returns of wheatgrowers in December, 1936, was 4,257,500 acres, including 3,961,680 acres for grain. The crop for grain in 1936-37 was estimated at 54,837,000 bushels. The carry-over of wheat and flour in stock in New South Wales at 30th November, 1936, was 2,719,000 bushels (expressed as bushels of wheat), compared with 5,980,000 bushels and 13,302,000 bushels at the corresponding dates of 1935 and 1934 respectively.

WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM NEW SOUTH WALES (DIRECT).

Month.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
	Bushels of Wheat.			Tons of Flour.		
December	682,105	1,829,120	2,282,212	17,497	24,507	20,783
January	1,404,068	1,643,368	3,165,230	31,301	11,479	16,475
February	60,020	4,525,927	2,499,777	13,217	14,906	18,745
March	130,273	3,759,267	2,596,730	26,402	15,413	15,416

WHEAT AND FLOUR.

	Bushels of Wheat (Equivalent).			Value £.		
December	1,515,281	2,996,127	3,271,895	204,313	508,485	789,356
January	2,894,573	2,189,997	3,949,754	370,215	398,124	1,029,694
February	689,389	5,235,722	3,392,391	91,675	970,841	883,785
March	1,387,516	4,493,198	3,330,825	203,009	829,544	870,738
Total (four months) ...	6,486,759	14,915,044	13,944,865	869,212	2,706,994	3,573,573

The course of wheat prices is shown in Table 25.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in the eight months ended 28th February, 1937, was sixteen per cent. less than in the similar period last season.

Month.	Output of Butter (New South Wales factories).		Butter exported oversea (New South Wales).			
	1935.	1936.	Quantity.		Value.	
			1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
	Thousand lb.		Thousand lb.		£	£
July	4,575	4,990	281	981	12,000	53,467
August	4,853	5,569	225	310	11,213	18,526
September	6,768	6,841	363	450	19,182	25,087
October	10,803	9,206	2,030	1,194	128,277	61,866
November	12,970	8,336	5,022	1,582	274,383	82,103
December	13,355	7,917	3,491	920	169,955	49,526
	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937
January	14,411	13,263	4,522	1,282	222,216	63,804
February	13,204	11,881	4,714	3,071	229,777	134,100
March	13,324	...	5,853	4,210	266,518	198,575

The course of local butter prices is shown in Table 25. Export sales parity (Sydney) on 15th April, 1937, was 118s. per cwt. compared with 95s. per cwt. a year previously.

5. COAL.

The quantity of coal raised in 1936 was 9,199,000 tons, compared with 8,699,000 tons in 1935 and 7,873,000 tons in 1934.

Month.	Coal Hauled by Government Railways.†			Coal Exported from New South Wales. †		
	1935.	1936.	1937.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Year ended 31st. Dec....	6,535,773	6,862,036		2,850,870	3,128,666	
January	513,500	448,980	563,457	224,565	187,857	235,766
February	545,271	537,622	545,155	268,895	252,883	223,235
March	573,770	584,063	590,000*	272,501	277,505	260,121
Total (January-March)...	1,632,541	1,570,665	1,698,612*	765,961	718,245	719,122

* Approximate. † Cargo and bunker, Oversea and interstate. ‡ Excludes coal used by the Railway Department and coal shipped or used in New South Wales without being hauled over Government railways.

6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.			
January... ..	2,199	2,284	2,623	2,616	163*	184	202	212	562*	639	749	786
February	2,326	2,468	2,656	2,814	173	191	206	221	598	692	766	839
March	2,434	2,615	2,838		175	194	208		612	699	775	
April	2,097	2,427	2,683		177	193	206		615	696	734	
May	2,394	2,643	2,650		178	194	206		628	702	756	
June	2,142	2,243	2,504		178	196	205		622	706	764	
July	2,234	2,511	2,827		179	199	211		634	712	776	
August	2,364	2,576	2,655		182	200	214		646	725	793	
September	2,259	2,490	2,761		183	203	215		651	736	790	
October	2,461	2,817	2,985		188	206	219		670	757	809	
November	2,620	2,908	3,022		188	207	219		675	760	806	
December	2,502	2,678	3,070		186	203	216		689	771	822	
Average (January -February) ...	2,262	2,376	2,640	2,715	168	188	204	216	580	666	758	812

See also Table 22.

* Decrease due to a dispute in the Textile Industry.

NOTE—Monthly particulars since January, 1930, were published in earlier issues of this Summary.

7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded:—

Year.	Month of March.				December Quarter.			
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Country Municipalities.		Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.		New Buildings and Additions.	
	£	£	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
1934	423,908	77,340	315	285,184	715	436,428	2,350,971	
1935	908,022	179,521	351	498,660	1,048	705,924	3,057,804	
1936	620,429	79,572	373	456,564	1,006	653,517	3,478,544	
1937	720,463	63,144	410	540,706	...	...	...

* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area. All other Shires are excluded, as returns are not supplied.

Figures as to permits to erect new buildings or additions show in advance the trend in the building industry. More detailed information extending over a number of years is shown on pages 21 to 24 of the "New South Wales Statistical Bulletin" for December Quarter, 1936.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

8. VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.*

To and from New South Wales direct Oversea.

Year.	Australian Currency Values.				British Currency Values.			
	Month of March.		Nine Months ended 31st March.		Month of March.		Nine Months ended 31st March.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Thousand £ A.				Thousand £ Stg.			
1935	3,963	2,706	29,730	25,746	3,164	2,160	23,736	20,556
1936	3,799	5,253	32,824	35,920	3,033	4,194	26,207	28,678
1937	†	5,433	†	39,305	†	4,337	†	31,430

* Excluding bullion and specie.

† Not available.

The values of imports represent the cost f.o.b. port of export plus 10 per cent., and are recorded in *English currency*. The values of exports are the values in the principal markets of New South Wales, and are recorded in *Australian currency*. The respective equivalent values in Australian and British currencies shown above are *estimated*.

9. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.

Month.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.		1936.		1937.	
	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.
	Million £.	Million £.	Million £.	Million £.		Million £.		Million £.	
January ...	9·89	9·52	9·87	4·69	10·85	4·93	11·27	5·95	13·74
February ...	9·52	9·98	10·37	4·87	10·82	5·61	12·72	6·02	14·64
March ...	9·55	10·92	10·92	5·83	12·39	6·24	13·11	...	...
April ...	10·17	10·67	11·25	5·60	12·00	6·28	13·45	...	...
May ...	10·17	11·37	11·64	5·94	13·14	6·18	13·44	...	...
June ...	9·61	10·63	10·91	5·12	11·60	5·99	13·21	...	...
July ...	10·09	10·33	11·46	5·31	12·15	6·40	14·17	...	...
August ...	10·22	11·23	* 11·40	6·34	13·54	6·02	13·13	...	...
September ...	* 11·10	11·51	12·25	6·19	12·84	6·57	13·77	...	...
October ...	11·13	11·30	12·47	6·71	14·70	* 6·42	15·10	...	...
November ...	11·05	* 11·42	11·99	* 6·41	13·20	6·18	14·52	...	...
December ...	11·76	11·81	12·69	6·44	13·98	6·04	13·98	...	...

* See note below.

Numerous commodities were exempted from tax as from 1st September, 1932, 26th October, 1933, 1st August, 1934, 25th October, 1935, and 26th September, 1936. Consequently, many traders dealing exclusively in exempt goods ceased to supply returns and the proportion of wholesale trade covered by the records has been progressively reduced. The figures for the six periods delineated above cannot be compared without allowance for this fact.

10. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for months shown below compared with corresponding months of previous year :—

Month.	Number of Business Days in Month.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
April 1936.								
April ...	23	23	+ 7·1	+ 4·7	+ 5·8	+ 4·8	+ 7·6	+ 6·7
May ...	26	26	— 0·7	+ 5·9	+ 2·0	+ 4·9	+ 3·9	+ 4·4
June ...	24	25	+ 15·4	+ 5·1	+ 12·7	+ 6·4	+ 6·5	+ 6·7
July* ...	27	27	+ 11·6	+ 1·8	+ 9·9	+ 6·0	+ 8·1	+ 8·1
August* ...	27	26	— 2·3	+ 6·4	+ 3·7	+ 4·7	+ 8·3	+ 8·6
September* ...	25	26	+ 9·1	+ 6·6	+ 7·2	+ 4·3	+ 6·5	+ 6·9
October* ...	26	26	+ 6·9	+ 6·8	+ 5·1	+ 3·6	+ 4·5	+ 5·3
November* ...	26	25	— 3·7	+ 6·9	+ 3·2	+ 4·2	+ 3·7	+ 5·1
December* ...	24	24	+ 9·2	+ 5·5	+ 7·8	+ 4·0	+ 4·6	+ 5·5
1937.								
January* ...	25	24	+ 1·5	+ 5·6	+ 1·2	— 0·5	+ 3·1	+ 4·2
February ...	25	23	+ 3·7	+ 4·9	+ 6·9	+ 3·8	+ 5·5	+ 5·4

* July, 1936, August, 1935, October, 1936, November, 1935, December, 1936, and January, 1936, included five late shopping nights.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

11. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were :—

	Month of February.			Eight Months ended 28th February.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1935 ...	1,206,708	900,413	306,295	10,741,452	7,192,049	3,549,403
1936 ...	1,279,257	934,259	344,998	11,410,025	7,586,800	3,823,225
1937 ...	1,353,400	962,450	390,950	11,863,864	7,849,779	4,014,085

* Interest and Exchange on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1935-36 was £5,700,000, exclusive of £903,773 exchange, etc.

	Month of February.		Eight Months ended 28th February.	
	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1935 ...	114,702	12,307	1,049,020	105,066
1936 ...	124,992	13,165	1,173,693	111,952
1937 ...	154,118	13,697	1,203,934	116,540

* Goods (including wayleave) and livestock. Ton-mileage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

12. TRAMWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES TRAMWAYS.

	Sydney and Suburbs.			Newcastle and Suburbs.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers Carried. ††	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers Carried.
	£	£		£	£	
Month of March—						
1935 ...	270,637	81,664	24,460,543	18,069	5,408	1,714,003
1936 ...	271,965	58,806	24,504,583	18,456	3,085	1,730,474
1937 ...	287,620	73,496	26,012,287	17,434	3,874	1,609,608
Nine Months ended 31st March—						
1935 ...	2,326,892	528,629	208,531,987	162,249	41,849	14,967,690
1936 ...	2,377,697	524,016	212,008,390	168,295	37,821	15,340,411
1937 ...	2,418,611	546,416	215,567,499	164,543	40,049	15,453,663

* Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Depreciation are not included as working expenses. The amount of interest chargeable against the tramways in 1935-36 was £352,000, exclusive of £49,310 exchange and £26,609 Sinking Fund.

†† Excludes Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

Note.—The excess of earnings over working expenses for Sydney and Newcastle Systems, amounted in February, 1937 to £50,355 and £4,138 respectively.

13. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.
(Including Government Vehicles.)

Class.	31st March, 1933.	1936.				1937.	
		31st March.	30th June.	30th September.	31st December.	28th February.	31st March.
Cars	163,116	174,896	177,289	179,159	183,406	185,317	186,647
Lorries and Vans	53,701	60,467	62,149	64,244	67,257	68,034	68,467
Cycles	22,839	23,083	23,048	23,061	23,418	23,421	23,486
Omnibuses ...	493	523	528	546	567	578	592
Cabs	1,050	1,086	1,113	1,139	1,155	1,157	1,159
Traders' Plates	673	823	851	875	909	923	939
Total	241,872	260,878	264,978	269,024	276,712	279,430	281,290

NOTE.—There were 251,329 vehicles (excluding Government) registered at 31st March, 1930.

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).										Lorries and Vans.									
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	July.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	July.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
1932	54	62	60	61	71	68	93	93	108		15	10	9	14	16	16	24	29	47	
1933	74	81	86	96	111	128	140	148	200		28	32	28	41	48	54	57	78	103	
1934	147	144	137	242	261	268	250	273	278		60	59	54	91	93	105	110	106	131	
1935	229	258	234	308	336	339	358	399	429		90	103	108	113	130	160	154	184	175	
1936	329	446	458	321	303	323	333	346	413		101	140	139	177	165	175	174	197	191	
1937	413	458	529								143	163	140							

* Represents average for four or five weeks ended first week in succeeding month until December, 1933; subsequent periods relate to the average over the exact calendar month. The term "new" denotes that the vehicle was not previously registered in N.S.W.

14. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.
(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January	118,507	127,462	162,813	201,206	265,396	296,482	342,155
February	118,720	130,591	164,960	204,149	268,904	299,715	343,407
March	119,398	132,583	168,695	207,503	271,848	304,954	345,056
September	120,423	150,099	188,984	251,486	285,105	330,902	
October	121,768	152,681	192,557	255,632	287,860	336,091	
November	123,091	157,184	195,092	259,158	291,378	338,106	
December	125,159	159,634	197,441	262,500	293,686	340,829	

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

15. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

Date.	Amount of Deposits.	Date.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1935.	1936.	1937.
1929—June 30 ...	£ 85,727,514†	January 31 ...	£ 76,487,194*	£ 78,925,356*	£ 79,740,080*
1930—June 30 ...	82,465,430†	February 28 ...	76,534,581*	79,191,335*	79,837,907*
1931—June 30 ...	69,810,769†	March 31 ...	76,650,111	79,116,303	79,769,722*
1932—June 30 ...	71,647,869†	April 30 ...	76,661,301*	78,914,281*	
1933—March 31 ...	71,253,452	May 31 ...	76,769,470*	78,909,060*	
June 30 ...	72,307,685†	June 30 ...	77,906,402†	79,999,948†	
September 30 ...	72,357,694	July 31 ...	78,111,298*	79,736,208*	
December 31 ...	72,503,848	August 31 ...	78,316,954*	79,789,959*	
1934—March 31 ...	73,958,642	September 30 ...	78,533,317	79,773,002	
June 30 ...	75,714,070†	October 31 ...	78,800,554*	79,955,145*	
September 30 ...	76,119,428	November 30 ...	78,888,557*	79,965,781*	
December 31 ...	76,167,309	December 31 ...	78,533,822	79,467,023	

* Approximate.

† Includes accrued interest.

16. TRADING BANKS—ADVANCES AND DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

TOTAL (including Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and including Government Business).

March Quarter.	Deposits.*	Advances, etc., and Government Securities.	Excess of Advances, Securities, etc., over Deposits.
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1935	126,483	147,655	21,172
1936	125,374	149,773	24,399
1937	137,814	160,676	22,862

* Excluding stock issued by Rural Bank.

17. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

March Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances, etc.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.
	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Total.		
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1935	59,091	43,435	102,526	96,745	(-) 5,781
1936	55,665	46,874	102,539	101,900	(-) 639
1937	58,984	49,438	108,422	104,341	(-) 4,081

(—) Denotes an excess of Deposits over Advances.

18. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	67.4	46.7	49.2	59.5	56.9	66.4	76.7	82	63	68	78	75	89	101
February...	63.8	47.3	47.7	59.3	59.7	69.2	77.4	82	62	66	77	75	86	101
March ...	69.9	42.7	53.3	58.8	57.7	69.9	77.2	81	*	63	75	74	85	98
April ...	62.4	43.5	44.4	52.8	61.3	63.5		82	*	63	74	78	87	
May ...	54.0	46.1	58.9	61.7	64.9	68.4		77	*	67	74	79	86	
June ...	57.1	51.8	52.4	72.1	73.7	69.5		75	66	68	78	86	87	
July ...	48.9	46.8	49.7	54.8	61.2	65.1		66	62	68	76	83	85	
August ...	45.5	46.0	48.5	47.8	59.6	61.9		65	64	66	73	84	86	
September	†54.6	51.3	55.6	61.7	62.5	68.1		64	65	69	73	82	87	
October ...	56.0	53.5	55.4	63.7	72.2	76.6		65	66	70	76	85	91	
November	50.6	55.3	63.9	63.2	75.1	79.7		66	68	74	80	89	96	
December	52.9	57.7	62.4	60.7	71.2	84.3		64	69	74	77	90	99	
Year ...	†683.1	588.7	641.4	716.1	776.0	842.6		72	65	68	76	82	89	

* State Government banking transactions suspended. Index not ascertainable.

† Exclusive of certain abnormal Government transactions.

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926–1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

19. INTEREST RATES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Period.	First Mortgages Registered. Proportion of Total Amount for which Rates are disclosed.					Australian Consolidated Loans. Interest yield (including Redemption) on all Securities Repayable:—			
	Rate of Interest per cent per annum.*					Over 5 to 10 Years.	Over 10 to 15 Years.	Over 15 Years.	Over 5 Years. (over all Rate.)
	4½ or under.	Over 4½-5.	Over 5-6.	Over 6-7.	Over 7.				
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent—Per annum.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aug. to Dec., 1933 ...	14	26	42	13	5	3 11 1	3 12 6	3 14 5	3 13 0
Jan. to June, 1934...	26	34	29	8	3	3 6 2	3 7 6	3 11 0	3 8 10
July to Dec., 1934 ...	30	40	21	7	2	3 2 6	3 3 3	3 7 5	3 4 8
Jan. to June, 1935 ...	46	33	15	4	2	3 5 8	3 6 8	3 11 4	3 7 10
July to Dec., 1935 ...	46	28	21	3	2	3 13 5	3 13 6	3 16 3	3 14 4
Jan. to June, 1936 ...	45	30	20	4	1	3 16 2	3 15 11	3 17 9	3 16 6
1936—July ...	33	45	18	2	2	3 17 5	3 18 4	3 19 2	3 18 4
August ...	48	27	17	4	4	3 18 0	3 19 0	3 19 10	3 19 0
September ...	35	40	17	3	5	3 17 0	3 18 9	3 19 10	3 18 7
October ...	23	61	13	2	1	3 16 9	3 18 8	3 19 2	3 18 4
November ...	30	45	21	3	1	3 17 2	3 19 4	4 0 0	3 19 0
December ...	33	38	21	6	2	3 19 4	4 0 0	4 0 5	4 0 0
1937—January ...	36	38	23	2	1	3 19 10	4 0 9	4 0 5	4 0 5
February ...	22	58	15	3	2	4 1 2	4 1 5	4 0 10	4 1 2
March ...	40	33	23	3	1	4 0 10	4 1 5	4 0 7	4 1 0
At 15th April ...	...	...	...	...	...	3 17 8	3 18 10	3 19 8	3 18 10

* Where two rates of interest are shown in the legal instrument, the lower rate being consequent on payment within a specified period, this rate is adopted for the purposes of the above table.

20. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1933.	1934. †	1935.	1936. †	1937.
	Thousand £.									
January ...	1,244	1,398	1,727	2,153	2,954	726	1,320	1,246	1,241	1,861
February ...	1,013	1,679	2,205	2,504	2,596	792	1,461	1,341	1,200	1,688
March ...	1,248	1,844	2,201	3,090	2,992	674	1,302	1,541	3,030	2,134
April ...	947	1,469	1,828	3,033	...	657	981	1,160	1,389	...
May ...	1,437	1,233	2,518	2,317	...	693	971	1,723	1,376	...
June ...	1,073	2,134	2,163	2,839	...	785	1,409	1,572	1,756	...
July ...	1,305	3,331	2,451	3,288	...	896	1,521	1,363	1,668	...
August ...	1,412	2,442	2,041	2,787	...	1,117	1,061	1,121	1,686	...
September ...	1,014	1,485	2,248	2,815	...	609	1,594	1,634	1,563	...
October ...	1,661	1,717	2,158	2,508	...	838	1,088	1,361	2,270	...
November ...	1,512	2,733	2,475	3,212	...	761	1,177	1,133	1,504	...
December ...	1,329	2,025	2,075	2,940	...	1,057	1,610	1,336	1,831	...
Year ...	15,195	23,490	26,090	33,546	...	9,605	15,488†	16,531	20,511†	...
Three Months ended 31st March	3,505	4,921	6,133	7,807	8,542	2,192	4,083	4,128	5,471	5,683

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

† Totals for months are approximate and aggregate differs slightly from annual total.

The average monthly transactions for period 1925-1929 were:—Sales, £4,619,000; and Mortgages, £4,042,000.

NOTE.—Mortgages and liens in some instances secure fluctuating advances, the amount of which is not recorded in the legal instruments. The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security of subsisting mortgages are included.

In the three months ended 31st March, 1937, mortgages, exclusive of those providing collateral security, amounted to £4,296,000, as compared with £4,592,000 and £3,643,000 in the corresponding period of 1936 and 1935 respectively.

21. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of March.			Three Months ended 31st March.		
	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1935 ...	303,039	328,524	153,429	1,051,136	869,980	353,699
1936 ...	188,517	444,986	229,732	885,075	945,579	433,407
1937 ...	238,861	333,963	145,900	674,849	805,362	417,555

See note under Table 20.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

22. INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT—N.S.W.

After comprehensive analysis of Census data, the returns of private employers accompanying remittances of wages tax, and returns of Government employment, the following indexes have been compiled covering total employment and unemployment in New South Wales :—

Middle of Month.	Proportion of all who are dependent on and available for employment—			
	(a) Including full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers.		(b) Excluding full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers.	
	Employed. per cent.	Unemployed. per cent.	Employed. per cent.	Unemployed. per cent.
Census of 30th June, 1933	74·4	25·6	73·5	26·5
1935—February	84·2	15·8	81·9	18·1
March	84·9	15·1	82·4	17·6
1936—February	88·6	11·4	86·4	13·6
March	89·8	10·2	87·6	12·4
1937—February (Revised)	93·3	6·7	91·8	8·2
March	93·2	6·8	91·9	8·1

The indexes have been adjusted to allow for an estimated increase of 1·2 per cent. per annum in the number of persons dependent on employment, but no adjustment is made for seasonal variation. At the Census, 15,142 persons dependent on employment returned themselves as unemployed by reason of illness, accident, etc., or "voluntarily." This number, representing 1·8 per cent. of all persons dependent on employment, is excluded from the above indexes, which relate to percentages of available wage earners employed and unemployed.

The approximate number of persons in private employment was 478,000 in June, 1933, 519,000 in June, 1934, 567,000 in June, 1935, 614,000 in June, 1936, and 644,000 in March, 1937.

Employment in Factories :—The numbers of employees in 98 of the larger factories of the State (including the 42 shown in Table 6) were as follow :—

Middle of Month.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	Middle of Month.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	Hundreds.							Hundreds.					
July	324	361	392	454	495	551	January	344	382	413*	463	520	558
August	321	374	399	450*	497	552	February	349	398	425	476	503*	572
September	325	384	408	456	504	551	March	354	401	440	487	512*	...
October	334	384	421	476	511	559	April	360	399	444	493	533	...
November	345	393	428	478	520	561	May	355	399	451	496	543	...
December	344	389	416	472	519	556	June	358	393	451	497	545	...

* Affected by an industrial dispute.

23. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and the group averages are the means of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values; adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total * Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929	179·3	183·8	129·4	174·1	243·5	174·4	172·6
Sept., 1931	72·3	60·2	87·9	75·2	121·3	74·4	77·2
1936 Mar. ...	185·8	176·0	182·6	146·7	272·4	172·0	180·6
Aug. ...	195·3	196·2	175·8	148·0	278·4	178·0	186·2
Sept. ...	198·2	198·3	175·8	151·1	278·2	179·2	187·0
Oct. ...	202·3	199·7	179·1	150·2	285·9	182·0	190·5
Nov. ...	207·9	200·1	178·2	158·6	288·2	186·1	194·2
Dec. ...	204·6	200·6	175·1	157·8	284·6	184·5	191·6
1937 Jan. ...	210·1	202·4	179·6	166·2	285·0	188·7	197·5
Feb. ...	213·8	203·4	182·1	168·8	284·6	190·4	200·1
Mar. ...	213·8	203·8	181·0	169·2	281·2	190·4	200·5

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies.
1929 and the lowest in September, 1931.

§ The highest point of the index prior to the slump, was reached in April,

26. OVERSEA WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS.

	1931	1936.										1937.		
	Sept.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Great Britain—Board of Trade (1930 = 100)...	84.2	91.7	91.9	91.9	92.6	93.6	95.2	96.1	97.6	98.3	100.8	102.9	103.9	107.3
United States—Irving Fisher (1926 = 100) ...	68.7	82.6	82.5	81.1	82.3	83.5	84.0	84.1	84.1	85.6	87.4	90.4	90.8	92.0*

Goldstandard suspended by Great Britain 21st September, 1931.

* Two weeks.

27. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Spot Prices of Metals (London Exchange, Prices in Sterling).

Date.	Gold (Fine).			Silver (Standard).		Lead.†		Spelter.†		Tin (Standard).		Copper (Standard).	
	per oz.			per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.	
Average, 1927-29 ...	£	s.	d.	s.	d.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.
September, 1931 ...	4	4	11	2	1.75	22	18	26	4	240	1	64	19
1936.	4	11	3	1	2.10	11	19	11	16	117	17	31	11
September ...	6	18	0	1	7.58	17	19	14	0	194	17	38	19
October ...	7	1	11	1	7.98	18	8	14	13	201	7	41	0
November ...	7	2	3	1	9.05	21	14	16	8	231	0	43	19
December ...	7	1	8	1	9.24	25	10	18	1	232	5	45	19
1937.													
January ...	7	1	8	1	8.73	27	4	21	4	229	9	51	10
February ...	7	2	1	1	8.08	28	6	25	4	233	19	59	5
March ...	7	2	4	1	8.68	33	0	33	5	283	5	72	8
April (1st to 17th) ...	7	1	9	1	9.00	27	7	28	6	277	10	65	13

† Mean of spot and forward quotations.

28. SUMMARY.

The following Table provides some indication of trends in 1936 and 1937, in respect of the principal activities for which it is possible to indicate general trends by monthly figures:—

Refer to Table No. ...	18	6	5	7	11	24	12
Month.	Index of Bank Clearings.	Value of Goods sold by certain Factories.	Quantity of Coal Hauled by Railways.	Value of City and Suburban Building Permits.	Number of Passenger Journeys on Railways.	Index of Quantity of Gas and Electricity Consumed.	Tramway Revenue.
1936.		£ (b)	tons (a)	£ (a)	(c)		£(a)
June ...	87	250	597	1,036	150	114.5	268
July ...	85	283	665	974	140	111.7	278
August ...	86	266	578	865	152	107.4	271
September ...	87	276	583	1,000	142	113.4	279
October ...	91	298	587	818	149	112.7	289
November ...	96	302	588	748	152	115.9	274
December ...	99	307	540	832	147	116.4	303
1937.							
January ...	101	262	563	658	146	114.5	317
February ...	101	281	545	571	137	115.4	269
March ...	98	...	590	720	...	115.2	305

(a) Thousands. (b) Ten thousands. (c) Hundred thousands.

The general position in regard to primary industries might be gauged by reference to tables 1 to 4, and to the prices shown in the graph on page 1, and in table 25.

The population of N.S.W. at 31st December, 1936, was 2,681,736 or 39 per cent. of the total population of Australia.

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the 20th of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted), payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

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The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

27th April, 1937.

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